


54/7/16 HC 4442

ISLE OF ELY COUNTY COUNCIL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
PRINCIPAL
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
for the
Year ending 31st December, 1954.

Sharman & Co., Ltd., High Street, March.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29497565>

*To the Chairman and Members of the Isle of Ely
Education Committee*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the School Health Service for the year 1954, and, in doing so, I wish to record my appreciation of the good team work and loyal service of the whole staff of the department, of the full co-operation of the Chief Education Officer and his staff, and of the interest and encouragement of the Chairman and Members of the School Medical Services Sub-Committee.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. E. HOCKEN,

Principal School Medical Officer.

STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer.

M. E. HOCKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers.

N. CASSELLS, M.B., Ch.B., C.P.H. (resigned 31/12/54).

M. J. DUNN, M.B., Ch., B. (appointed 1/2/54).

J. M. MATTHEW, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (appointed 31/1/55).

Principal School Dental Officer.

G. R. SMITH, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Ed.)

School Dental Officers.

TWO VACANCIES.

W. P. KEOGH, L.D.S. (part time).

Speech Therapist.

M. T. HOOKER, L.C.S.T. (resigned 21/8/54).

Speech Therapist—Part-time.

H. MACNAUGHTON.

Orthopaedic Physiotherapist.

VACANCY.

Oculists—Part-time.

M. PERRERS TAYLOR, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.O.M.S.

D WILSON TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B.

J. H. KODICEK, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (temporary).

Orthoptist—Part-time.

S. A. SEALEY (appointed 11/1/54).

Suprintendent Nursing Officer.

G. M. SANDERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

E. CORNISH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

T. GIBBONS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (resigned 31/3/54).

H. GREAVES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (resigned 31/7/54).

M. B. GUDGEON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

E. E. REDHEAD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

L. J. W. STEPHEN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (appointed 5/7/54).

E. T. TAYLOR, S.R.N., S.C.M.

School Nurses—Part-time.

C. M. BIART, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

H. BROADHEAD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

J. PARROTT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

K. M. RAILTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

D. M. RUSSELL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

M. M. SOUTHWARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

G. A. WEBSTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Clinic Nurse—Part-time.

M. E. HOPE, S.R.N.

Dental Attendant.

V. BRADLEY.

M. WOODS (part time).

Clerical Staff.

H. A. HOUSE (Administrative Officer).

I. R. BENSON.

A. MILLER.

ANNUAL REPORT

1954

No. of Children on Roll:—

Primary Schools	...	...	...	...	9206
Secondary Modern Schools	...	...	...	...	2691
Grammar Schools	...	...	...	...	1624
					13521

No. of Schools	79
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Routine visits of inspection were paid to 27 schools.

A. Periodic Medical

<i>Inspections</i>	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Entrants	1,085	674	1,059	2,083	276
Second Age Group	823	1,117	628	924	178
Third Age Group	166	487	721	708	374
Other periodic inspections	413	194	364	325	26
Total	2,487	2,473	2,772	4,040	854

B. Other Inspections

Special Inspections— children specially referred by par- ents and teachers	13	61	69	45	24
Re - inspections— all children found to have defects at the previous ex- amination	768	1,215	1,045	2,147	723
Total	781	1,276	1,114	2,192	747

The number of schools to which routine visits of inspection were paid again fell from 29 to 27, the consequent drop in the numbers of pupils examined being from 3,748 to 3,268.

WORK OF SCHOOL NURSES—CLEANLINESS INSPECTIONS.

Sessions spent at routine medical inspection	Average number of visits per school for cleanliness inspection	No. of children examined for cleanliness	No. of individual children found unclean	Follow-up visits in homes for all purposes	Attendances at minor ailment and eye clinics
153	6.49	30,180	197	984	812

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS.

CLINIC	ADDRESS	DOCTOR PRESENT
WISBECH	.. County Clinic, Lynn Rd., Wisbech	Each Friday morning
MARCH	.. County Clinic, County Hall, March	3rd Thursday morning
ELY	.. County Clinic, Downham Rd., Ely	1st & 3rd Wednesdays—mornings
THORNEY	.. Duke of Bedford C.P. School	1st Thursday morning

During the year regular sessions at the centres at Chatteris, Littleport, and Outwell were discontinued, partly owing to a falling off in the numbers of children presenting themselves for treatment and partly in an effort to make the best use of the time of both doctors and nurses.

TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS IN THE CLINICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.
(Individual numbers of children treated).

	Wisbech	March	Ely	Chatteris	Thorney	Outwell
Ringworm (head) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ringworm (body) ..	1	2	..	1	..	..
Scabies ..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Impetigo ..	69	17	11	1	1	1
Other skin diseases ..	27	32	1	3	..	55
Minor eye defects ..	25	28	5	2	8	4
Minor ear defects ..	20	9	3	1	2	2
Miscellaneous ..	568	65	22	33	56	104
TOTALS ..	711	153	42	41	67	166

GRAND TOTAL : 1180.
Total attendances made by children : 2574.

TABLE OF ATTENDANCES AT EYE CLINICS DURING 1954.

	Number of Clinics	Total Attendances	Individual Attendances	New Cases
Doddington County Hospital	86	679	413	143
Wisbech Clarkson Hospital	40	391	250	97
Peterborough				
Memorial Hospital	7	42	41	21
Ely School Clinic	48	450	220	58
Total	181	1562	924	319

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

Miss Perrers Taylor reports as follows:—

The number of attendances at my Ely clinic during 1954 was 241. Eight children have had surgical treatment, mainly for squints. The orthoptic work, now that an Orthoptist attends more frequently, has increased greatly and children are at last receiving full ophthalmic treatment. There are very few defaulters and most parents are very co-operative. The clinics run very smoothly.

ELY OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

Dr. Kodicek reports:—

During 1954, 216 attendances were made at my clinic, 32 relating to new cases and 184 by old cases.

The attendance was good and I found both parents and children very co-operative.

The majority were of school age, but a number were of pre-school age (1—5 years) referred from the welfare clinics. It is of great importance to see these smaller children as soon as a suspicion of an ophthalmic defect is aroused and especially now that orthoptic services are at hand. Orthoptic treatment can be commenced at an early age and in many cases completed before the child attends school.

ELY ORTHOPTIC CLINIC.

Miss Sealey reports as follows:—

Total number of attendances	512
Number of new cases referred	90
Under treatment	40
Under observation	23
Received operative treatment	7
Discharged	6
Left school	6
Left district	4
No treatment necessary	4

Operative Treatment for Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

The total number of cases receiving operative treatment was 262 during 1954.

69 other conditions were dealt with, either at the minor ailment clinics or at the hospitals.

Close liaison was maintained with the speech therapist in after-care work.

TUBERCULOSIS.

485 examinations of school children were carried out at chest clinics at Wisbech and Doddington by the chest physician during 1954. Of this number 96 were new cases, the remainder being re-examinations.

408 X-ray examinations of school children were carried out at the chest clinics, and of these 96 were new cases, the remainder being re-examinations of old cases.

9 cases of tuberculosis were notified as occurring among school children during 1954, 7 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary. During the year 4 school children were recommended for sanatorium treatment and at the end of the year 4 had been admitted to Kelling Children's Sanatorium.

AUDIOMETRY.

During 1954 routine "sweep" tests were carried out during school medical inspections on 140 boys and 198 girls in the seven year age group. Of these, 8 boys and 14 girls (6.51%) were found to have defective hearing to such an extent as to warrant further investigation.

In addition a number of children were given audiometric tests at minor ailment clinics at the request of teachers, members of the professional staff, or parents.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

Administration.

The general character of the dental inspection and treatment scheme has remained unaltered during the year. At no time during 1954 were the services of a full staff available.

Dental Inspections.

These were carried out on school premises during school hours, and 3,212 school children were inspected during 23 half-day sessions.

Dental Treatment.

Of the 3,212 school children inspected, 2,631 (eighty-two per cent.) were found to require treatment, and of this number 1,856 (seventy per cent.) received treatment from the school dental officer.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF TOTAL NUMBERS OF CHILDREN
INSPECTED AND TREATED DURING THE PAST SIX YEARS.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Number Inspected	3,850	1,616	871	1,661	1,702	3,212
Number Treated	2,032	737	282	1,113	1,163	1,856
Number of Inspections and Treatment Sessions	849	274½	111	465	492	642

Orthodontics.

It has only been possible to undertake a small number of orthodontic cases without sacrificing time spent on other necessary forms of treatment.

For the children to benefit from the modern technique of orthodontics, a part-time consultant orthodontic specialist should be employed in addition to a full staff of school dental officers.

Pre-School Children.

Lack of staff has again postponed the implementation of the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, with regard to the development of a maternity and child welfare dental scheme, to which these children properly belong. However, we have continued the same policy as last year. All children under five, on whose behalf application was made, were inspected and treated.

Dental Statistics, 1954.

A complete analysis of the children inspected during 1954, and also of the treatment carried out for these children is shown in the following table:—

1.	Total number inspected	...	...	3212
2.	Number referred	...	...	2631
3.	Number actually treated	...	...	1856
4.	Attendances at Treatment Centres	...		4022
5.	Number of Inspection Sessions	...		23
6.	Number of Treatment Sessions	...		619
7.	Fillings:			
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	2828
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	506
8.	Number of Teeth Filled:			
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	2505
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	486
9.	Extractions:			
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	364
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	1665
10.	General Anæsthetic Cases	...	...	433
11.	Other Operations:			
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	763
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	120

Mr. Smith reports:—

Dental Staffing.

A part-time dental officer was appointed to the Wisbech area in February. No other appointments were made during the year.

Early in the year a new salary scale for dental officers employed by local authorities was introduced. It was hoped that this new salary scale would result in appointments being made but, despite repeated advertisements, no full-time appointments have been made.

The Whitley Council scale for dental attendants was also introduced during the year. This scale is lower than on which dental attendants had been previously placed by local authorities. One is led to believe that the extent of the duties performed by a dental attendant is not fully appreciated. An early review of this scale would be most desirable.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

With the appointment of a part-time dental officer to the Wisbech area, it was possible to make a start in that area of routine inspection and treatment for infants and juniors. The inspections of the Wisbech children have been carried out in school premises. At March and Ely re-inspections have been carried out at the clinics, but in the case of the five year old entrants, however, inspections have been conducted at school. The number of pre-school children seen has been insufficient to warrant a session per week. Whenever possible the appointment for the pre-school child has been made for the same time as that for the older brother or sister.

General.

The "specials," that is those who come to the clinic without appointments, or are referred by school medical officers, school nurses, or head teachers, still constitute a problem. Because of the increase in the number of "specials" the period between each routine inspection and treatment has had to be lengthened. A large number of the children who were receiving such routine inspection and treatment now have to come for emergency treatment.

A large number of injuries to incisor teeth occurred in the first two months of the year. Three casualties were as a result of blows received on the hockey field, while another three resulted from blows in the school playgrounds. In most cases the fractures of the teeth resulted in involvement of the pulps.

Only 26 orthodontic cases were undertaken. This is two fewer than in the previous year. The demand, however, is still very great.

I am grateful to the professional and clerical staffs of the health department for their help during the year and to the head teachers for their co-operation, especially during school inspections.

MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME

On a given day in October, 1954, 10,091 pupils in attendance took milk.

All the 79 schools now receive milk in $\frac{1}{2}$ pint bottles.

Since the 6th August, 1946, all pupils requiring milk are supplied free of charge.

	Oct. 1948	Oct. 1949	Oct. 1950	Oct. 1951	Oct. 1952	Oct. 1953	Oct. 1954
No. on school rolls	11,287	11,264	11,380	11,840	12,316	12,476	13,293
No. of $\frac{1}{2}$ pints supplied	8,379	8,465	8,215	8,706	9,178	9,474	10,091
Percentage receiving milk	74%	75%	72%	73%	75%	76%	76%

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Category	In Special Schools		In maintained Primary and Secondary Schools		In Independent Schools		Not at School		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Blind	1	..	..	..	1	..	3	1	5	1
Partially Sighted ..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	3	1
Deaf	4	3	..	..	1	..	1	..	6	3
Partially Deaf .. ..	..	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	2	3
Delicate	4	1	4	5	..	..	..	..	8	6
Educationally Sub-normal ..	7	8	68	52	..	..	..	..	75	60
Epileptic	1	..	7	1	..	..	..	..	8	1
Maladjusted	1	..	5	2	..	..	..	1	6	3
Physically Handicapped	4	1	19	9	..	..	3	3	26	13
	22	16	107	70	2	..	8	5	139	91

Handicapped pupils were admitted to special schools during the year as follows:—

Category					Boys	Girls
Blind	...	...	...	...	1	0
*Delicate	...	...	...	...	3	4
Educationally	Sub-normal	...	...	...	3	3
Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	1	0
					8	7

* Of these seven delicate children, five were subsequently discharged to their homes during the year with their condition much improved.

One child previously at a school for the partially sighted was transferred to a school for blind pupils as his sight was deteriorating.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No schools were closed for epidemics in 1954. The following table gives incidence of notifiable and other infectious diseases:—

	Diph- theria	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing cough	Chic- ken pox	Meas- les	German measles	Mumps	Total
Cases	..	152	138	490	87	11	540	1418
Contacts	..	20	3	..	2	..	..	25

IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria.

During 1954, 71 school children received injections of A.P.T. and 419 received a re-inforcing or 'booster,' injection.

PROVISION OF COOKED MEALS AND HOT DRINKS IN SCHOOLS.

During 1954, school meals were provided in all but 2 schools, and the children in both these schools were served with hot drinks.

On a day in October, 1954, the number of mid-day meals served was 6,962.

HYGIENE IN SCHOOLS.

A routine hygiene inspection was carried out during the periodic medical inspections at each school and any sanitary defects were reported. Appropriate action was initiated and the repairs carried out.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Physical training continued to be carried on by instructors and specially trained members of the teaching staff.

SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following examinations were carried out during 1954:—

Prospective teachers	...	...	...	33
Entrants to teaching profession			...	16

CO-OPERATION.

The measure of co-operation which has existed between the Chief Education Officer and his staff and the staff of the school medical department continues to be very close and leads to prompt action in any matters which concern either department. The head teachers and teaching staffs continue to give valuable assistance at the periodic medical inspections and also in referring pupils with defects. As regards the latter we regard the teachers as our most reliable source of information.

Parents are fully appreciative of the scope of the services and the high acceptance for all types of treatment offered is evidence of their co-operation.

The local inspectors of the N.S.P.C.C. have at all times responded promptly to requests for assistance in dealing with problem families and the four school attendance officers link up with this department in all investigations concerning prolonged absences of pupils due to health reasons.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

A—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	1,085
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	823
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	166
Total						2,074
Number of other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	413
Grand Total						2,487

B—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	13
Number of Re-inspections	...	...	...	768
Total				781

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical
Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and
Infestation with Vermin).

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II. A.	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	23	134	155
Second Age Group ..	38	60	97
Third Age Group ..	3	9	11
Total (prescribed groups)	64	203	263
Other Periodic Inspections ..	23	41	63
Grand Total ..	87	244	326

TABLE II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	18	41	..	1
5	Eyes—				
	a. Vision ..	87	110	..	..
	b. Squint ..	18	20	..	..
	c. Other ..	11	9	1	1
6	Ears—				
	a. Hearing ..	2	51	..	1
	b. Otitis Media ..	7	25	..	..
	c. Other ..	7	18	1	1
7	Nose or Throat ..	57	136	..	1
8	Speech	18	19	..	..
9	Cervical Glands ..	2	118	..	..
10	Heart & Circulation	3	15	..	..
11	Lungs	8	21	..	..
12	Developmental—				
	a. Hernia ..	5	7	..	..
	b. Other ..	22	54	..	1
13	Orthopaedic—				
	a. Posture ..	3	41	..	..
	b. Flat foot ..	33	50	..	2
	c. Other ..	21	70	..	1
14	Nervous system—				
	a. Epilepsy ..	2	3	..	..
	b. Other ..	1	10	..	..
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development	3	42	..	..
	b. Stability ..	3	43	..	1
16	Other	10	16	..	1

B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS
INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ..	1085	595	54.84	452	41.66	38	3.50
Second Age Group	823	456	55.41	344	41.80	23	2.79
Third Age Group	166	104	62.65	57	34.34	5	3.01
Other Periodic Inspections	413	243	58.84	153	37.05	17	4.11
Total ..	2487	1398	56.21	1006	40.45	83	3.34

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS

(excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

(a)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year
Skin—	
Ringworm—Scalp—	
(i) X-Ray treatment .. .. .	..
(ii) Other treatment .. .. .	..
Ringworm—Body	4
Scabies	1
Impetigo	100
Other skin diseases	118
Eye Disease	72
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital).	
Ear Defects	37
Miscellaneous	848
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	
Total ..	1180
(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailment clinics	2574

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group 1).

	<i>No. of defects dealt with</i>
Errors of refraction (including squint) ...	1114
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group 1)	—
Total ...	<hr/> 1114 <hr/>
No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were	
(a) Prescribed ...	850
(b) Obtained ...	807

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

	<i>Total number Treated</i>
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for diseases of the ear	1
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis ...	259
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	2
Received other forms of treatment	32
Total ...	<hr/> 294 <hr/>

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	22
(b) No. treated otherwise, <i>e.g.</i> , in clinics or out- patients departments	2

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY.

No. of Pupils treated—	
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements ...	10
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements ...	194

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—						
(a)	Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	2569
(b)	Specials	...	...	...	...	643
(c)	TOTAL (Periodic and Specials)	...	...	...	...	3212
						<hr/>
(2)	Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	2631
(3)	Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	2429
(4)	Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	1856
(5)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	4022
(6)	Half-days devoted to (a) Inspection	...	...	...	...	23
	(b) Treatment	...	...	...	...	619
	Total (a) and (b)	...	...	...	...	642
						<hr/>
(7)	Fillings: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2828
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	506
	Total (6)	...	...	...	...	3334
						<hr/>
(8) Number of Teeth Filled:						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2505
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	486
	Total (7)	...	...	...	...	2991
						<hr/>
(9)	Extractions: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	364
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	1665
	Total (8)	...	...	...	...	2029
						<hr/>
(10)	Administration of General Anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	433
(11)	Other Operations: (a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	763
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	120
	Total (a) and (b)	...	...	...	...	883

TABLE V.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	...	30,180
(ii)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	197
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	...	—
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	...	—

INDEX.

	PAGE.
Audiometry	8
Defective Vision	6
Dental Service	8
Handicapped Pupils	11
Hygiene	13
Immunisation	12
Infectious Diseases	12
Meals in Schools	12
Medical Inspection	3
Milk in Schools	11
Minor Ailment Clinics	5
Nose and Throat/Treatment	7
Ophthalmic Treatment	6
Orthoptic Treatment	7
Physical Training	13
Routine Inspections	3
Special Examinations	13
Staff	2
Statistics	3
Tuberculosis	7
Uncleanliness	4

